GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1823
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010
FOODGRAINS FOR THE HOMELESS
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reduced the allocation of foodgrains for the homeless;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (c): No specific allocation of food grains for the homeless are made by the Government of India.

However, the Government has been making allocation of food grains at highly subsidized prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes such as Annapurna, Emergency Feeding Programme, Midday Meal Scheme, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme, Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls, Welfare Institutions, etc. through the State/UT Governments. TPDS is implemented jointly by the Government of India and State/Union Territory (UT) Governments with sharing of responsibilities in this regard. Responsibilities for lifting of the food grains allocated by the Government of India, distribution of the food grains within the State/UT under TPDS and other welfare schemes, identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) families based on estimates of Planning Commission, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision over distribution of allocated food grains to eligible ration card holders/beneficiaries through Fair Price Shops and other institutional mechanisms rests with the State/UT Governments.